

# **UTAH STATE PRISON ORIENTATION FOR INMATE'S FRIENDS AND FAMILY**

## **INTRODUCTION**

This is an introductory booklet for the people whose friends or family members are sent to Prison by the Courts. Although you have seen movies about Prison life, you will find out that all Prisons are different. You need to know what to expect when dealing with the staff and Administration of the Utah State Prison. You also need to become familiar with what to expect should you decide to come out to the Prison for visiting or any other business. You may also want to know how to keep in touch and maintain ties with inmates while they are incarcerated.

This booklet is written in an easy question and answer format and tries to answer most of the frequently asked questions. This booklet will also start to prepare you in your expectations and give you an understanding of how and why things are done the way they are.

This booklet has sections that include general information, the Reception and Orientation unit (R&O), daily routines, inmate classification, telephone and other subjects. This booklet also includes the rules and regulations for visiting so you can read them before visiting Prison sites.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **Q. Where do inmates live?**

A. Inmates can live in one of the State's two Prison sites, or in one of several County jails that have qualified to house State inmates. Inmates are housed based on their gender, classification and security levels, employment status, and rehabilitative opportunities, as well as the facilities space availability and management issues. In most cases, inmates are not segregated because of their offense(s).

The two Prison sites are the Utah State Prison in Draper, and the Central Utah Correctional Facility in Gunnison. The Draper complex consists of eight facilities: Lone Peak, Olympus, Oquirrh, Promontory, Special Services Dormitory (SSD), Timpanogos, Wasatch, and Uinta. The Gunnison complex consists of five facilities named Aspen, Birch, Cedar, Dogwood, Elm, Firr, Gale, and Hickory. Most facilities have several housing units. The Inmate Placement Program (IPP) places inmates in 21 county jails statewide.

In addition, a few inmates are placed in out-of-state prisons, Federal Correctional Facilities, and private correctional facilities through the Western Interstate Compact and the Interstate Corrections Compact.

**Q. Who is in Charge?**

A. The State Prisons are part of the Division of Institutional Operation of the Utah State Department of Corrections. Each complex has a Warden and Facility Deputy Wardens, and the housing unit within the facilities has a Captain and/or a Lieutenant. The complexes have a Watch Commander or Duty Officer on duty 24 hours a day. If calling or writing about a concern, you may be referred to one of these Administrators. Usually your concerns will be referred to the housing unit managers or caseworker.

**Q. What do the Caseworkers do for the inmates?**

A. Caseworkers may be a contact person between inmates and their families or friends outside of Prison. Caseworkers also aid inmates through some of the processes inside the Prison.

**Q. Will I be able to tour the Prison?**

A. Unfortunately, for safety and security reasons, the public cannot tour the Prisons. If you are on an inmate's approved visiting list, you will be able to come onto Prison property to visit the inmate. Each facility has a designated visiting area. In addition, those interested can attend public awareness meetings in which inmates answer questions and talk about prison life. If you would like to attend a meeting, call (801) 576-7065 in Draper or (435) 528-6000 in Gunnison to make arrangements.

**Q. How are the Prisons cleaned?**

A. The Utah State Prison is cleaned and maintained by inmate labor. Inmates are expected to clean their own personal areas. Inmate crews are paid to clean larger common areas.

**Q. What is the food like at the Prison?**

A. The meals at the Prison are designed by a dietician to insure that daily nutritional values are met. The meals served are varied and well prepared. Most inmates will receive their meals on a thermo tray delivered to the housing unit. Other inmates may receive their meals in a cafeteria.

**Q. What is the training of the officers employed at the Prison?**

A. Officers at the Utah State Prison are certified Correctional Officers and have Peace Officer authority. Their training consists of a 13-week Peace Officer Standard and Training course. Officers are required to complete an additional forty hours of training every year throughout their career.